

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions comprising at least the reaction of a tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide with an alcohol and an organic base which is more strongly basic than the alcohol.

2. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the organic base employed is a compound of the general formula (1)

R_3X (1)

or of the general formula (2)

R_2Y (2)

in which

X denotes or

Y denotes $-O-$, $-S-$, $-Se-$, $-C(=O)-$, $-C(=S)-$ or $-C(=Se)-$,

R denotes H for $Y \neq O$ and where, in the case of the formula (2), all R cannot simultaneously be H,

straight-chain or branched alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,

straight-chain or branched alkenyl having 2-20 C atoms and one or more double bonds,

straight-chain or branched alkynyl having 2-20 C atoms and one or more triple bonds or

saturated, partially or fully unsaturated cycloalkyl having 3-7 C atoms, in particular phenyl,

which may be substituted by alkyl groups having 1-6 C atoms,

where the substituents R are in each case identical or different,

where the substituents R may be bonded to one another in pairs by a single or double bond,

where one or more, but not all, the substituents R may be partially or fully substituted by halogens, in particular -F and/or -Cl, or partially by -CN or -NO₂,

and where one or two non-adjacent carbon atoms of the substituent R may be replaced by atoms and/or atom groups selected from the group -O-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)NH-, -C(O)NR'-, -S-, -S(O)-, -S(O)NH-, -S(O)NR'-, -S(O)O-, -S(O)₂-, -S(O)₂O-, -S(O)₂NH-, -S(O)₂NR'-, -N=, -N=N-, -NH-, -NR'-, -PH-, -PR'-, -P(O)R'-, -P(O)R'-O-, -O-P(O)R'-O- and -PR'₂=N- where R' = non-, partially or perfluorinated C₁- to C₆-alkyl, C₃- to C₇-cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or an unsubstituted or substituted heterocycle.

3. (Currently Amended) Process according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the organic base employed is ~~a compound selected from the group~~-(C₂H₅)₃N, (C₂H₅)₂NH, (C₂H₅)₃P, (C₂H₅O)₃P, (C₄H₉)₃P, CH₃-S-CH₃, (CH₃)₂N-C(O)-N(CH₃)₂, C₆H₅-Se-C₆H₅, guanidine, pyridine, imidazole, N-methylimidazole, benzoxazole, benzothiazole, pyrrolidine, piperidine, piperazine, aniline, N,N-dimethylaniline, benzylamine, N-ethylbenzylamine or diphenyl sulfide.

4. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~wherein the alcohol employed is an aliphatic alcohol.

5. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterised in that wherein the alcohol employed is a compound selected from the group methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n-propanol, butanol, hexanol ~~and~~ or benzyl alcohol.

6. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterised in that wherein the alcohol employed is a fluorinated aliphatic alcohol.

7. (Currently Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterised in that wherein the alcohol employed is an unsaturated alcohol.

8. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to claim 1, characterised in that wherein the tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide employed is a tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide in which the three perfluoroalkyl groups are identical or different.

9. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to claim 1, characterised in that wherein the tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide employed is a tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide in which the perfluoroalkyl groups contain 1 to 12 C atoms and are straight-chain or branched.

10. (Currently Amended) Process according to Claim 8, characterised in that wherein the tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide employed is a compound selected from the group $(CF_3)_3P(O)$, $(C_2F_5)_3P(O)$, $(C_3F_7)_3P(O)$ or

(C₄F₉)₃P(O).

11. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the reaction is carried out at a temperature of -20°C to 200°C.

12. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of an ionic liquid, comprising preparing an~~Use of the~~ organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion ~~prepared by a process~~ according to claim 1 ~~as and formulating the salt into an ionic liquid.~~

13. (Currently Amended) A process for effecting phase-transfer catalysis, comprising preparing an~~Use of the~~ organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion ~~prepared by a process~~ according to claim 1 ~~as phase-transfer catalyst or as surfactant and subjecting said salt to a phase-transfer catalysis reaction.~~

14. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing an electrochemical cell, comprising preparing an~~Use of the~~ organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion ~~prepared by a process~~ according to claim 1 ~~as conductive salt and placing said salt in an electrochemical cell.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A process for achieving a plasticizing effect, comprising preparing an~~Use of the~~ organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion ~~prepared by a process~~ according to claim 1 ~~as plasticiser and combining with materials to be plasticized.~~

16. (New) A process for achieving a surfactant effect, comprising preparing an organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion according to claim 1 and combining with materials in which a surfactant effect is desired.